

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1.- 47. (Canceled)

48. (Currently Amended) A method of transmission of application data in a plurality of services carried in a digital transport stream, each of said plurality of services carrying at least one application, comprising:

providing a single application data table containing information regarding each of said at least one application carried by each service among said ~~[[of a]]~~ plurality of ~~[[the]]~~ services ~~within the transport stream,~~

wherein the at least one application is an executable ~~interactive~~ application configured to execute on a decoder, and

wherein the single application data table comprises:

~~a service description part comprising a list of applications carried by each of the plurality of services, and indicates whether a given application is carried by more than one service~~ an application description part comprising a mapping of an application identifier uniquely identifying the at least one application to characteristics of the at least one application,

~~wherein the characteristics are evaluated when a user switches from a first service comprising a first application and a second application to a second service comprising the first application and a third application, wherein the evaluation of the characteristics of the first, second, and third applications determines whether to maintain, delete, or download one or more of the first, second, and third applications.~~

49. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 48, wherein the single application data table is transported in a transport packet having a predetermined packet ID value associated with the presence of an application data table within the packet.

50. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 48, wherein said single application data table is electronically signed so as to permit a decoder to verify the single application data table as originating from a known operator.

51. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 48, wherein the digital transport stream comprises, for each of the plurality of services, further comprises a program map table giving providing a point of access to said at least one application[[s]] carried by this service, the program map table itself comprising information regarding said at least one application carried by this service.

52. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 48, further comprising:

providing a plurality of said application data tables, each application data table containing information regarding applications contained within a bouquet of services.

53. – 54. (Canceled)

55. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 48, wherein the digital transport stream conforms to the MPEG standard.

56. (Currently Amended) A transmission apparatus comprising:

a transmitter of a ~~digital broadcast system~~ for transmitting a transport stream comprising a plurality of digital television services, wherein each of the plurality of services carries at least one application, together with a single application data table comprising information regarding said at least one application carried by each of a plurality of the services within the transport stream, wherein the at least one application comprises an executable ~~interactive~~ application configured to be executed on a decoder, and

wherein the single application data table further comprises:

~~a service description part comprising~~ a list of applications carried by each of the plurality of services and indicates whether a given application is carried by more than one service, and

~~an application description part comprising a mapping of an application identifier uniquely identifying the at least one application to characteristics of the at least one application,~~

~~wherein the characteristics are evaluated when a user switches from a first service comprising a first application and a second application to a second service comprising the first application and a third application, wherein the evaluation of the characteristics of the first, second, and third applications determines whether to maintain, delete, or download one or more of the first, second, and third applications.~~

57. – 58. (Canceled)

59. (Currently Amended) The transmission apparatus as claimed in claim 56, wherein the transmitter is adapted to transmit, for each of the plurality of services, a program map table giving providing a point of access to applications carried by that service, ~~the program map table itself comprising information regarding~~ said at least one application carried by this service.

60. (Previously Presented) The transmission apparatus as claimed in claim 56, wherein the transmitter is adapted to transmit a plurality of said application data tables, each application data table containing information regarding applications contained within a bouquet of services.

61. (Canceled)

62. (Previously Presented) A transmission apparatus as claimed in claim 56, wherein the digital transport stream conforms to the MPEG standard.

63. (Currently Amended) A decoder comprising:

a memory for storing an single application data table comprising information regarding applications carried by a plurality of services within ~~[[the]]~~ a digital transport stream, wherein each of the plurality of services carries at least one application, wherein the at least one application comprises an ~~executable interactive~~ application executable~~[[ed]]~~ by the decoder, wherein the ~~single~~ application data table further comprises:

~~a service description part comprising a list of applications carried by each of the plurality of services and is configured to indicate whether a given application is carried by more than one service; and~~
~~an application description part comprising a mapping of an application identifier uniquely identifying the at least one application to characteristics of the at least one application,~~
~~wherein the characteristics are evaluated when a user switches from a first service comprising a first application and a second application to a second service comprising the first application and a third application, wherein the evaluation of the characteristics of the first, second, and third applications determines whether to maintain, delete, or download one or more of the first, second, and third applications; and~~
~~means for controlling, when changing between the plurality of services, the downloading, deleting, and maintenance of the first, second, and third applications in dependence on the characteristics of each of the first, second, and third applications information contained within the single application data table.~~

64. (Canceled)

65. (New) The method as claimed in claim 48, wherein said application data table further comprises information linking each application carried by said plurality of services to parameters describing said application.

66. (New) The method as claimed in claim 65, wherein said parameters comprise an application identifier uniquely identifying said each application within the plurality of services.

67. (New) The method as claimed in claim 65, wherein said parameters comprise information defining whether an application is to be maintained or not when changing services.

68. (New) The method as claimed in claim 65, further comprising:

detecting a command of change from a present service to a second service;

based on the information in the application data table, determining whether a given application is carried by the present service and the second service; and

deciding whether or not to maintain said given application based on said determination.

69. (New) The method as claimed in claim 65, wherein said parameters comprise a priority of an application for accessing resources of the decoder compared to other applications.

70. (New) The method as claimed in claim 65, wherein said parameters comprise a priority of an application for downloading by the decoder.

71. (New) The decoder as claimed in claim 63, wherein said application data table further comprises information linking each application carried by said plurality of services to parameters describing each said application.

72. (New) The decoder as claimed in claim 71, wherein said parameters comprise an application identifier uniquely identifying said each application within the plurality of services.

73. (New) The decoder as claimed in claim 71, wherein said parameters comprise information defining whether an application is to be maintained or not when changing services.

74. (New) The decoder as claimed in claim 71, wherein said parameters comprise information indicating whether an application is exclusive to a service.

75. (New) The decoder as claimed in claim 71, wherein said parameters comprise a priority of an application for accessing resources of the decoder compared to other applications.

76. (New) The decoder as claimed in claim 71, wherein said parameters comprise a priority of an application for downloading by the decoder.

77. (New) A method of reception by a decoder of applications carried in a plurality of services each of which carries at least one application, wherein the said plurality of services is transmitted in a digital transport stream, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving an application data table containing information regarding said applications carried by said plurality of services,
wherein each application is an executable application configured to execute on said decoder, and

wherein said application data table comprises a list of all applications carried by each of the plurality of services and indicates whether a given application is carried by more than one service.

78. (New) The method as claimed in claim 77, wherein said application data table further comprises information linking each application carried by said plurality of services to parameters describing each said application.

79. (New) The method as claimed in claim 77, wherein said parameters comprise an application identifier uniquely identifying said each application within the plurality of services.

80. (New) The method as claimed in claim 77, wherein said parameters comprise information defining whether an application is to be maintained or not when changing services.

81. (New) The method as claimed in claim 77, wherein said decoder comprises a control unit for deciding, based on information in the application data table, whether or not to maintain an application when switching from a present service to a second service.

82. (New) The method as claimed in claim 77, wherein said parameters comprise a priority of an application for accessing resources of the decoder compared to other applications.

83. (New) The method as claimed in claim 77, wherein said parameters comprise a priority of an application for downloading by the decoder.